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Infectious disease progression modeling

Models which can predict disease progression are useful for aiding clinicians in prescribing the correct treatment at the optimal time to produce the best outcome for the patient. Positive correlations between changes in a patient's infection state with respect to other factors of the patient's profile such as age, gender and treatment. We utilize artificial neural networks and phase type survival trees with differing combinations of input covariates to find which ones provide the best predictor of the future state. To demonstrate the model, we used a dataset of 1,838 patients infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) which were enrolled in the Italian public structures between January 1996 and January 2008. The proposed disease progression models effectively cluster, identify and quantify the effects of these covariates and their interaction in the prediction of HIV disease progression. Our results show that antiretroviral treatment (ART) is the best prognosticator of a patient's future state followed by the CD4+ T-lymphocyte measurement. Other covariates such as gender and age have little impact on the overall accuracy in prediction. Results improved dramatically when predicting if the patients' next state was AIDS (Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome). These results should aid in the management of HIV and its treatment while the methods developed through this research can also be useful for modeling disease progression in patients who have other chronic conditions or diseases such as tuberculosis (TB), the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), cardiovascular disease (CVD), cancer and diabetes.

Biography

/DOLW *DUJ KDV UHFHLYHG KLV 3K' GHJUHH IURP WKH 8QLYHUVLW\ RI 8OVWHU 8. LQ +H KDV UHFH IURP WKH %DUNDWXOODK 8QLYHUVLW\ ,QGLD LQ DQG 3RVWJUDGXDWH GHJUHH LQ ,QIRUPDWLRQ 7H /HFWXUHU LQ &RPSXWHU ,QIRUPDWLRQ 6\VWHPV DW WKH 8QLYHUVLW\ RI 0DOWD 0DOWD +H ZDV D 5HV 8QLYHUVLW\ RI 8OVWHU 8. +LV UHVHDFK LQWHUHVVV LQFOXGH PLVVLRQ GDWD KDQGOLQJ PDFKLQH GRPDLQ +H KDV SXEOLVKHG PRUH WKDQ WHFKQLFDO SDSHUV LQ UHIHUHHG MRXUQDOV DQG FRQIHU

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